NOVA SCOTIA

LEGAL AID COMMISSION

Twenty-Sixth Annual Report

2002/2003

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MANDATE 1

STRUCTURE 2

NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION CONTACTS 3

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 4

STANDING COMMITTEES 5

OFFICE LOCATIONS 6

STAFF COMPLEMENT 7

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT 8

FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY TABLE 12

STATISTICAL TABLES:

- APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY METHOD OF SERVICE 13
- APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY AREA OF LAW 14
- MATTERS COMPLETED 15
- MATTERS COMPLETED BY AREA OF LAW 16
- NUMBER OF FULL SERVICE MATTERS COMPLETED 17
  (Adult Criminal)
- NUMBER OF FULL SERVICE MATTERS COMPLETED 18
  (Young Offender Criminal)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- NUMBER OF FULL SERVICE MATTERS COMPLETED 19
  (Provincial/Family/Civil)
- CERTIFICATES COMPLETED BY PRIVATE LAWYERS 20
- AFTER HOURS TELEPHONE DUTY COUNSEL 21
- RECIPROCALS 22

AUDITOR GENERAL: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 23

DEFINITION OF TERMS AS USED IN ANNUAL REPORT..... 37

MANDATE

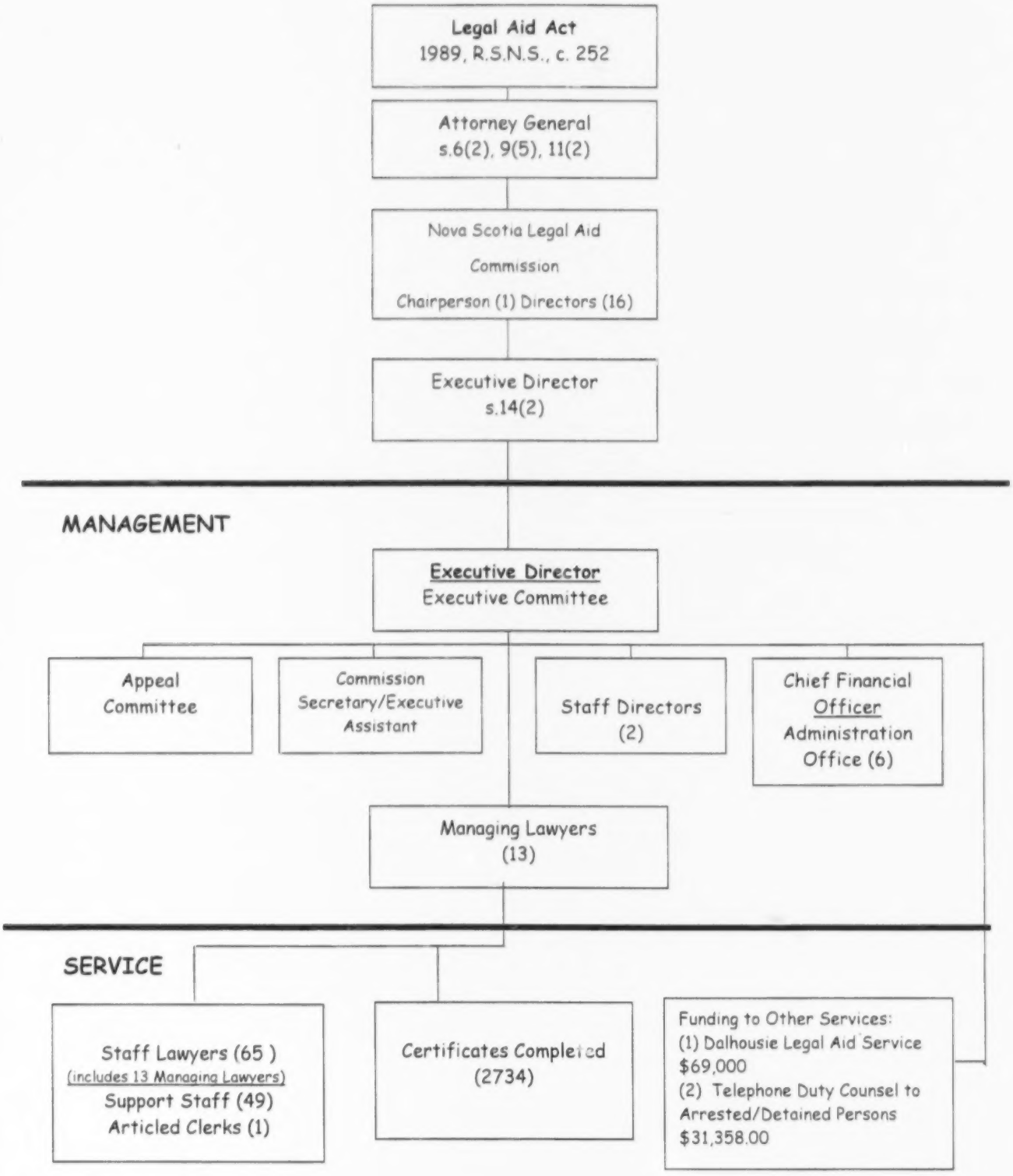
The mandate of the Nova Scotia Legal Commission, in so far as Government funding permits, is:

(a) To deliver quality legal representation to qualified applicants with priority for matters involving the liberty and civil rights of individual clients and for matters involving the integrity and protection of an individual's family.

(b) Such other legal services as Government may contract with the Commission to provide to individuals or groups.

2002/2003 NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION STRUCTURE

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY



NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION

CONTACTS

T. GERARD LUKEMAN, Q.C.
Executive Director
Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
401-5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 1T2
(902) 420-6573 Halifax
(902) 863-3350 Antigonish
(902) 420-3471 Facsimile

WALTER I. YEADON
Director
Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
401-5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 3T2
(902) 420-6573
(902) 420-3471 Facsimile

ANNE MALICK, Q.C.
Director
Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
102-523 Prince Street
Truro, NS B2N 1E8
(902) 893-5920 Truro
(902) 420-6573 Halifax
(902) 893-6112 Facsimile

DAVID J. SLAUNWHITE
Chief Financial Officer
Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
401-5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 3T2
(902) 420-6589
(902) 420-3471 Facsimile

NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS OF MARCH 31, 2003

Name	Location	Term Expires	Representing
A. William Cox, Q.C.	Halifax	April 30, 2003	Justice
Betty L. Josey	Dartmouth	April 30, 2003	Justice
J. Michael Kuna	Sydney	April 30, 2003	Justice
Vincent B. MacDonald	Halifax	April 30, 2003	Justice
R. Gordon Murray, Q.C.	New Glasgow	July 26, 2003	Bar Society
M. Joseph Rizzetto	Sydney	October 5, 2004	Bar Society
Donald G. Harding (Chair)	Shelburne	November 27, 2005	Justice
Glenn Joudrey	Kingston	November 27, 2005	Justice
Patrick J. Murray, Q.C.	Sydney	November 27, 2005	Justice
James Chipman	Halifax	December 16, 2005	Justice
Kevin Coady, Q.C.	Halifax	December 5, 2005	Bar Society
David F. Curtis, Q.C.	Truro	December 5, 2005	Bar Society
Frank DeMont	New Glasgow	December 5, 2005	Bar Society
Christopher Manning	Kentville	December 5, 2005	Bar Society
Clarence Guest	Halifax	-	Public Service
Shulamith Medjuck	Halifax	-	Public Service
Vacant	Halifax	January 13, 2003	Bar Society

STANDING COMMITTEES AS OF MARCH 31, 2003

APPEAL

Panel A
Vincent B. MacDonald
M. Joseph Rizzetto
James Chipman
Frank DeMont

Panel B
A. William Cox, Q.C.
Betty L. Josey
J. Michael Kuna
Glenn Joudrey

BUDGET

David F. Curtis, Q.C. (Vice-Chair)
Shulamith Medjuck
Clarence Guest
R. Gordon Murray, Q.C.
A. William Cox, Q.C.
Patrick J. Murray, Q.C.

Donald G. Harding (Chair)
T. Gerard Lukeman, Q.C. (Executive Director)
Walter I. Yeadon (Director)
Anne Malick, Q.C. (Director)
Resource - David J. Slaunwhite
(Chief Financial Officer)

EXECUTIVE

Donald G. Harding (Chair)
T. Gerard Lukeman, Q.C.(Ex. Director)
Walter I. Yeadon (Director)
Anne Malick, Q.C. (Director)
R. Gordon Murray, Q.C.

Resource - David J. Slaunwhite
(Chief Financial Officer)
Resource - Lisa Stokkeskog
(Commission Secretary)

PLANNING & POLICY

David F. Curtis, Q.C. (Vice-Chair)
M. Joseph Rizzetto
J. Michael Kuna

Resource - Anne Malick, Q.C. (Director)

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Donald G. Harding (Chair)
David F. Curtis, Q.C. (Vice-Chair)
Christopher Manning

Resource - Walter I. Yeadon (Director)

OFFICE LOCATIONS

Amherst
P.O. Box 262, 55 Church Street
Amherst, NS B4H 3Z2
(902) 667-7544 /(902) 667-0030 Fax

Annapolis Royal
P.O. Box 188, 253 St. George Street
Annapolis Royal, NS B0S 1A0
(902) 532-2311/(902) 532-7488 Fax

Antigonish
273 Main Street
Antigonish, NS B2G 2C3
(902) 863-3350 /(902) 863-7598 Fax

Bridgewater
724 King Street
Bridgewater, NS B4V 1B6
(902) 543-4658 /(902) 543-3044 Fax

Dartmouth
300-99 Wyse Road
Dartmouth, NS B3A 4S5
(902) 420-8815 Family/Civil
(902) 420-8818 Criminal
(902) 420-6562 Fax

Halifax-South
400-5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 3T2
(902) 420-6583 / (902) 420-1260 Fax

Halifax-North
2830 Agricola Street
Halifax, NS B3K 4E4
(902) 420-3450
902) 420-2873 Fax

Legal Aid Litigation Office
86 College Street, Suite 1
Antigonish, NS B2G 1X7
(902) 863-7171 / 863-7172 Fax

YCJA Duty Counsel Office
401A-5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 3T2
(902) 420-3468/(902) 420-3471 Fax

Kentville
325 Main Street, Salon B
Kentville, NS B4N 1K5
(902) 679-6110 /(902) 679-6177 Fax

New Glasgow
116 George Street
New Glasgow, NS B2H 2K6
(902) 755-7020 /(902) 752-8733 Fax

Sydney
P.O. Box 1373, 201-336 Kings Road
Sydney, NS B1P 6K3
(902) 563-2295 /(902) 539-0489 Fax

Truro
102-523 Prince Street
Truro, NS B2N 1E8
(902) 893-5920 /(902) 893-6112 Fax

Windsor
P.O. Box 760, 138 Gerrish Street
Windsor, NS B0N 2T0
(902) 798-8397 /(902) 798-8345 Fax

Yarmouth
P.O. Box 163, 101 Water Street
Yarmouth, NS B5A 4B2
(902) 742-7827 /(902) 742-0676

Sub-Offices
Liverpool - 354-3215 contact BW
Port Hawkesbury - 188-817-0116

Office of the Executive Director
401-5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 3T2
(902) 420-6573/(902) 420-3471 Fax

Duty Counsel Office
407-5475 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, NS B3J 3T2
(902) 420-6579/(902) 420-3471 Fax

NSLA STAFF COMPLEMENT AS OF MARCH 31, 2003

OFFICE	Exec. Dir.	Staff Dir.	Lawyers	Admin. Support	Legal Assistants	Chief Financial Officer	Prison Liaison	Community & Youth Court Support Workers	Library	MIS	Article Clerks	Total
Administration	1	1		5		1			1	1		10
Amherst			2		2.6		1					5.6
Annapolis Royal			2		1.6							3.6
Antigonish			4		3							7
Bridgewater			4		3							7
Dartmouth			9		6							15
Hal - South			8		4							12
Hal - North			8		6			2			1	17
Kentville			4		3							7
New Glasgow			4		3							7
Sydney			10		6			1				17
Truro		1	2		2.6							5.6
Windsor			2		1.6							3.6
Yarmouth			3		2.6							5.6
Litigation			2									2
Duty Counsel			1									1
TOTALS	**1**	**2**	**65**	**5**	**45**	**1**	**1**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**1**	126

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

It is my pleasure to present to you the Twenty-Sixth Annual Report of the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission.

In September 2002, the Commission held its Annual Staff Lawyers' Meeting and the Commission Directors' Meeting at White Point. We were pleased to welcome as guest speaker at our dinner the Minister of Justice for Nova Scotia, Mr. Michael Baker, Q.C. In his comments, the Minister of Justice spoke of the strong financial support the Province has shown for our Legal Aid program and of the need for the Federal Government to increase their funding for Legal Aid.

At our Annual Meeting dinner, we were very happy to have Justice Glen G. McDougall of the Nova Scotia Supreme Court in attendance. We took this opportunity to formally thank Glen for all his support for the Legal Aid program while he was Chair of the Commission. We wish him continued success on the Bench.

After a number of months without a Commission Chair following the appointment of our former Chair to the Supreme Court, the Province appointed Donald G. Harding of Shelburne, Nova Scotia, as Commission Chair on November 28th, 2002. I look forward to building a positive working relationship with the new Chair of the Commission and to receiving his support for both the Legal Aid program and our staff. Welcome aboard, Don!

I would now like to review in summary a few of the significant developments and changes in Legal Aid this past year.

Appointments to the Bench

The staff and administration at Legal Aid take pride in the appointment of one of our own to the Bench. Mona Lynch, one of our Halifax staff lawyers, was appointed to the Nova Scotia Supreme Court. Our best wishes go with Justice Lynch as she takes on her new responsibilities in the Family Division. The obvious competence, good sense and extensive knowledge of the law that Mona displayed on behalf of her clients will stand her in good stead in her time on the Bench. All the best, Mona!

New Glasgow Office Move

In September 2002, the Commission opened new office premises in downtown New Glasgow for our staff. This move resulted in a marked improvement in our premises which has been much appreciated by the New Glasgow staff. I believe that our clients should be able to receive their legal services in modern offices premises which are conducive to professional relationships between lawyers and their clients.

Business Hours Telephone Duty Counsel

Our staff lawyers in our thirteen service offices provide free and immediate legal advice by telephone to citizens arrested or detained by policing agencies in the Province of Nova Scotia. We noted that at times policing agencies were having difficulty in locating a staff lawyer who was available to take the call from a detainee when their local Legal Aid office could not respond.

Effective August 1, 2000, all policing agencies from across the Province began contacting the Business Hours Telephone Duty Counsel (BHTDC) telephone line through one local Halifax number rather than contacting the local Legal Aid Office. This year, the Commission arranged for a toll-free number that any policing agency in the Province could contact during business hours to locate a staff lawyer duty counsel.

Maureen Bremner of our Halifax North Office has taken on the responsibility for receiving these duty counsel calls and forwarding them to the staff lawyers located anywhere in the Province to provide the advice. The system is working well to date and I thank Ms. Bremner for the efficient service provided to the public and our staff lawyers in this regard.

Office Furniture Upgrade

During this year, we completed the upgrade of office furniture across our thirteen offices. The new desks and chairs for both lawyers and support staff replaced many items which were of 1970's vintage. The new furniture is a good match for the personal computer network rolled out the previous year.

Youth Court Support Worker Project

We extended the pilot project in Sydney and Halifax for the two Youth Court Support Workers by funding the same from Commission resources after the two-year federal pilot project funding terminated. Based on the report done on the pilot project, we concluded that the Youth Court Support Workers were a service most beneficial to youths in trouble with the law and thus it was decided to fund the project from our own financial resources.

Legal Aid Office in Justice Centre

The Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission met with representatives of the Nova Scotia Department of Justice to make plans for a Legal Aid Office to be located in a Justice Centre to be built in Port Hawkesbury. The construction of the Justice Centre is expected to take place in 2004 and will be the "test office" to determine if a location in a Justice Centre is a positive or negative experience for our clients and staff.

Legal Aid Services Provided

The Commission had 25,612 requests for Legal Aid last year. Of these, 2,317 requests were rejected as being ineligible for Legal Aid. At the year end, 467 individuals were in the process of having their eligibility determined and so are recorded as "Pending Decision". In the remaining 22,828 requests, the Commission provided these individuals with legal services.

These 22,828 services were provided in the following areas of law:

- we provided 13,306 services to adult individuals facing criminal charges;
- we provided 3,099 services to young persons (aged 12 to 17 inclusive) facing criminal charges;
- we provided individuals facing charges under Provincial Statutes with 37 services. We rarely provide services for provincial offences except when incarceration is a possibility or the particular circumstances of the individual necessitate such representation;
- we provided 5,845 services to individuals facing family law problems with a priority being placed on child protection matters and custody disputes; and,
- we provided 388 services to individuals with a variety of civil legal issues.

- with our After Hours Telephone Duty Counsel Service, there were 153 callers for which their matter(s) did not fall into the criminal or young offender category.

For more details, I would refer you to the information charts provided later in this Annual Report.

Closing

To sum up, I believe our twenty-sixth year of operation as a Legal Aid Commission has been a successful one. This success is the direct result of the dedication and hard work of all our staff. On behalf of the Commission and our clients, I offer each of the staff our gratitude for a job well done.

Also, may I just note that over the last year I have received a number of comments from individuals to the effect that there is a very positive atmosphere overall in our daily workplaces and that staff and management have a good working relationship in place. To each of you, I extend my personal thanks for your cooperation and understanding as we work together to provide equal access to justice for our clients through the provision of top quality legal services.

T. Gerard Lukeman, Q.C.
Executive Director

NOVA SCOTIA LEGAL AID COMMISSION

FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY TABLE

Legal Aid may be granted to a person on Social Assistance or in an equivalent financial position where there is merit in providing legal assistance in certain areas of family/civil and criminal law.

A person is in a position equivalent to that of someone on Social Assistance when the gross monthly income of the person and his/her spouse, including common-law spouse, is less than the amount set out below. (Child Tax Credit is not counted in income) and the person's monthly expenses for shelter, food, miscellaneous, transportation and the cost of the legal service requested is greater than the amount set out below. (Maximum allowance for transportation is $18.00)

HOUSEHOLD	GROSS MONTHLY INCOME	HOUSEHOLD	GROSS MONTHLY INCOME
One Adult	$1067.00	Two Adults	$1424.00
and 1 Child	$1416.00	and 1 Child	$1708.00
and 2 Children	$1700.00	and 2 Children	$1932.00
and 3 Children	$1924.00	and 3 Children	$2156.00
and 4 Children	$2148.00	and 4 Children	$2380.00
and 5 Children	$2372.00	and 5 Children	$2604.00
and 6 Children	$2596.00	and 6 Children	$2828.00
and 7 Children	$2820.00	and 7 Children	$3052.00

Applications Received by Method of Service

From April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003 with Comparative

Disposition	2002/2003	2001/2002	Change	
Full Service				
Staff Lawyers	11,592	11,779	(187)	-1.6%
Private Lawyers	3,093	2,980	113	3.8%
Full Service	**14,685**	**14,759**	**(74)**	**-0.5%**
Reciprocals - Outgoing	**75**	**109**	**(34)**	**-31.2%**
Summary Service	**1,130**	**1,088**	**42**	**3.9%**
Duty Counsel				
Staff Duty Counsel	121	280	(159)	-56.8%
Cells Duty Counsel	2,224	2,487	(263)	-10.6%
Business Hours Telephone DC	1,053	656	397	60.5%
After Hours Telephone DC	3,540	3,468	72	2.1%
Duty Counsel	**6,938**	**6,891**	**47**	**0.7%**
Accepted Applications	**22,828**	**22,847**	**(19)**	**-0.1%**
Rejected Applications	**2,317**	**2,518**	**(201)**	**-8.0%**
Pending Decision	**467**	**581**	**(114)**	**-19.6%**
Grand Total	**25,612**	**25,946**	**(334)**	**-1.3%**

Applications Received by Area of Law

From April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003

Disposition	Criminal Adult	Criminal Y. O.	Provincial	Family	Civil	N/A	Total	%
Full Service								
Staff Lawyers	5,876	1,940	18	3,568	190	0	11,592	45.3%
Private Lawyers	1,169	401	0	1,492	31	0	3,093	12.1%
Full Service	**7,045**	**2,341**	**18**	**5,060**	**221**	**0**	**14,685**	**57.3%**
Reciprocals - Outgoing	**0**	**0**	**0**	**75**	**0**	**0**	**75**	**0.3%**
Summary Service	**221**	**21**	**15**	**706**	**167**	**0**	**1,130**	**4.4%**
Duty Counsel								
Staff Duty Counsel	109	6	2	4	0	0	121	0.5%
Cells Duty Counsel	2,103	120	1	0	0	0	2,224	8.7%
Business Hours Telephone DC	928	124	1	0	0	0	1,053	4.1%
After Hours Telephone DC	2,900	487	0	0	0	153	3,540	13.8%
Duty Counsel	**6,040**	**737**	**4**	**4**	**0**	**153**	**6,938**	**27.1%**
Accepted Applications	**13,306**	**3,099**	**37**	**5,845**	**388**	**153**	**22,828**	**89.1%**
Rejected Applications	**943**	**41**	**41**	**1,193**	**99**	**0**	**2,317**	**9.0%**
Pending Decision	**111**	**13**	**0**	**338**	**5**	**0**	**467**	**1.8%**
Grand Total	**14,360**	**3,153**	**78**	**7,376**	**492**	**153**	**25,612**	**100.0%**
Percent	**56.1%**	**12.3%**	**0.3%**	**28.8%**	**1.9%**	**0.6%**	**100.0 %**	

Matters Completed

From April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003 with Comparative

Disposition	2002/2003	2001/2002	Change	
Full Service				
Staff Lawyers	12,096	10,804	1,292	12.0%
Private Lawyers	2,734	2,588	146	5.6%
Full Service	**14,830**	**13,392**	**1,438**	**10.7%**
Reciprocals - Outgoing	**75**	**109**	**(34)**	**-31.2%**
Summary Service	**1,298**	**1,185**	**113**	**9.5%**
Duty Counsel				
Staff Duty Counsel	121	293	(172)	-58.7%
Cells Duty Counsel	2,224	2,449	(225)	-9.2%
Business Hours Telephone DC	1,053	656	397	60.5%
After Hours Telephone DC	3,540	3,468	72	2.1%
Duty Counsel	**6,938**	**6,866**	**72**	1.0%
Accepted Applications	**23,141**	**21,552**	**1,589**	**7.4%**
Rejected Applications	**2,356**	**2,530**	**(174)**	**-6.9%**
Pending Applications	**232**	**0**	**232**	**100.0%**
Grand Total	**25,729**	**24,082**	**1,647**	**6.8%**

Matters Completed by Area of Law

From April, 1 2002 to March 31, 2003

Disposition	Criminal Adult	Criminal Y. O.	Provincial	Family	Civil	N/A	Total	%
Full Service								
Staff Lawyers	6,438	1,903	38	3,546	171	0	**12,096**	47.0%
Private Lawyers	1,104	349	0	1,249	32	0	**2,734**	10.6%
Full Service	**7,542**	**2,252**	**38**	**4,795**	**203**	**0**	**14,830**	**57.6%**
Reciprocals - Outgoing	**0**	**0**	**0**	**75**	**0**	**0**	**75**	**0.3%**
Summary Service	**258**	**25**	**17**	**827**	**171**	**0**	**1,298**	**5.0%**
Duty Counsel								
Staff Duty Counsel	109	6	2	4	0	0	**121**	0.5%
Cells Duty Counsel	2,103	120	1	0	0	0	**2,224**	8.6%
Business Hours Telephone DC	928	124	1	0	0	0	**1,053**	4.1%
After Hours Telephone DC	2,900	487	0	0	0	153	**3,540**	13.8%
Duty Counsel	**6,040**	**737**	**4**	**4**	**0**	**153**	**6,938**	27.0%
Accepted Applications	**13,840**	**3,014**	**59**	**5,701**	**374**	**153**	**23,141**	**89.9%**
Rejected Applications	**960**	**42**	**41**	**1,212**	**101**	**0**	**2,356**	**9.2%**
Pending Applications	**51**	**4**	**0**	**175**	**2**	**0**	**232**	**0.9%**
Grand Total	**14,851**	**3,060**	**100**	**7,088**	**477**	**153**	**25,729**	**100%**
Percent	**57.7%**	**11.9%**	**0.4%**	**27.5%**	**1.9%**	**0.6%**	**100%**	

Number of Full Service Matters Completed
From April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003

Full Service Matters	AM	AR	AT	BW	DR	Hfx North	Hfx South	KE	NG	SY	TR	WI	YA	Staff Total	Private Lawyer
Criminal Adult															
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	**4**	**12**
Attempted murder	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	**4**	**0**
Robbery	1	0	1	7	16	0	47	4	0	4	3	2	1	**86**	**43**
Sexual assault	10	8	8	7	12	0	19	9	7	25	8	5	6	**124**	**54**
Sexual abuse	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	2	7	**0**
Aggravated assault	0	0	0	0	17	1	22	7	3	25	73	3	7	**158**	**0**
Assault	46	49	40	50	157	1	356	91	61	286	22	53	33	**1,245**	**425**
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	**5**	**0**
Abduction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	**1**	**0**
Arson	2	1	0	2	2	0	3	5	0	5	0	1	1	**22**	**5**
Weapons/Explosives	3	4	3	3	10	0	14	5	5	15	6	6	2	**76**	**20**
Break & Enter	8	10	7	32	49	0	81	17	21	55	23	21	5	**329**	**66**
Fraud/False pretence	12	5	7	25	47	0	63	16	18	28	12	9	4	**246**	**26**
Theft	33	19	15	33	138	1	395	51	29	213	47	31	15	**1,020**	**88**
Possession of stolen property	8	4	2	12	15	0	30	7	3	19	8	8	1	**117**	**0**
Property damage/Mischief	7	10	6	10	18	0	49	23	5	54	12	14	5	**213**	**11**
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	5	0	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	**48**	**2**
Gaming/Betting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0**
Public order offence	5	2	2	3	2	0	13	0	0	7	0	5	0	**39**	**4**
Administration of justice	18	0	2	7	3	0	3	5	0	22	23	11	0	**94**	**0**
Traffic/Import of drugs	1	1	5	7	28	0	69	21	5	17	19	14	3	**190**	**2**
Possession of drugs	6	16	5	13	23	0	44	13	14	42	4	11	4	**195**	**76**
C.C. Motor vehicle offence	4	7	19	4	7	0	23	5	4	13	11	4	0	**101**	**9**
Impaired driving	3	13	14	10	30	0	42	13	18	91	28	20	12	**294**	**6**
Forgery/Uttering	0	2	0	2	3	0	5	2	4	3	5	1	0	**27**	**2**
Criminal negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	**2**	**0**
Uttering threats	5	7	17	17	33	0	90	19	17	124	19	8	7	**363**	**3**
Conspiracy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0**
Peace Bond	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	**4**	**1**
Breach of probation/ Order variation	39	36	44	65	94	0	226	58	73	228	27	46	21	**957**	**2**
Appeal	3	1	4	0	2	0	9	3	0	6	0	1	0	**29**	**19**
Other	3	15	17	19	105	0	96	13	17	78	36	16	23	**438**	**228**
Criminal Adult Total	**217**	**211**	**218**	**330**	**819**	**3**	**1,745**	**391**	**304**	**1,368**	**389**	**291**	**152**	**6,438**	**1,104**

Full Service Matters	AM	AR	AT	BW	DR	Hfx North	Hfx South	KE	NG	SY	TR	WI	YA	Staff Total	Private Lawyer
Criminal Young Offender															
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**1**
Attempted murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	**1**	**0**
Robbery	0	0	1	1	9	36	9	0	0	2	2	4	0	**64**	**24**
Sexual assault	4	1	1	1	0	4	1	5	3	4	2	7	1	**34**	**6**
Sexual abuse	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**1**	**0**
Aggravated assault	0	0	0	0	6	63	2	0	1	5	5	1	3	**86**	**0**
Assault	15	4	7	14	16	40	11	32	9	36	3	13	12	**212**	**88**
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0**
Abduction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0**
Arson	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	**6**	**2**
Weapons/Explosives	1	1	0	0	1	10	0	2	0	3	2	3	0	**23**	**8**
Break & Enter	13	7	7	24	18	54	9	14	13	20	7	17	6	**209**	**59**
Fraud/False pretence	0	0	0	0	3	4	2	1	0	2	2	0	1	**15**	**1**
Theft	17	2	8	24	18	79	18	26	14	46	28	12	3	**295**	**45**
Possession of stolen property	0	0	0	3	3	12	1	2	3	8	4	5	1	**42**	**0**
Property damage/Mischief	5	2	0	4	6	26	2	15	4	14	5	3	4	**90**	**5**
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0**
Gaming/Betting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0**
Public order offence	1	1	0	1	0	38	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	**45**	**4**
Administration of justice	13	0	0	4	0	2	0	3	0	20	5	2	0	**49**	**0**
Traffic/Import of drugs	0	0	0	3	1	4	4	6	0	0	0	1	0	**19**	**0**
Possession of drugs	2	1	3	2	4	10	2	4	2	5	2	0	1	**38**	**8**
C.C. Motor vehicle offence	0	1	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	5	3	1	1	**17**	**2**
Impaired driving	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	**3**	**0**
Forgery/Uttering	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**3**	**0**
Criminal negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	**1**	**0**
Uttering threats	3	0	2	6	7	19	2	3	4	19	3	2	0	**70**	**0**
Conspiracy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0**
Peace Bond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0**
Breach of probation/ Order variation	25	3	14	54	30	66	9	28	53	92	19	21	11	**425**	**7**
Y.O.A. Transfer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	**2**	**1**
Y.O.A. Review	4	3	0	3	6	2	0	4	8	1	2	7	6	**46**	**0**
Appeal	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	**7**	**1**
Other	1	1	4	2	6	40	7	5	4	18	2	0	10	**100**	**87**
Criminal Young Offender Total	**106**	**28**	**49**	**148**	**135**	**518**	**81**	**153**	**119**	**306**	**100**	**100**	**60**	**1,903**	**349**

Full Service Matters	AM	AR	AT	BW	DR	Hfx North	Hfx South	KE	NG	SY	TR	WI	YA	Staff Total	Private Lawyer
Provincial															
Wildlife Act	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	**1**	**0**
Motor Vehicle Act	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	7	0	**12**	**0**
Liquor Control Act	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	**7**	**0**
Appeal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0**
Other	0	2	0	2	0	9	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	**18**	**0**
Provincial Total	**0**	**5**	**2**	**2**	**0**	**12**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**7**	**0**	**8**	**2**	**38**	**0**
Family															
Separation	3	69	23	58	34	32	0	25	48	51	19	23	33	**418**	**29**
Divorce	12	43	49	31	59	39	1	5	39	55	23	8	22	**386**	**62**
Custody	56	45	48	22	142	178	0	111	80	87	59	25	53	**906**	**261**
Children & Family Services	7	10	21	16	34	70	0	13	24	50	20	10	13	**288**	**296**
Enforcement	0	7	7	4	6	8	0	2	6	3	1	1	2	**47**	**11**
Application to vary	35	26	43	58	35	42	0	36	72	73	30	1	34	**485**	**189**
Family maintenance	16	26	94	105	85	70	0	40	48	130	28	10	58	**710**	**120**
Matrimonial property	1	2	4	3	3	6	0	1	4	6	12	5	0	**47**	**20**
Access	0	13	7	7	27	42	0	17	23	15	13	5	24	**193**	**146**
Paternity	0	0	1	1	4	1	0	4	2	0	1	0	0	**14**	**9**
Appeal	0	3	0	1	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	**9**	**12**
Other	0	0	0	1	4	10	0	6	10	6	2	0	4	**43**	**94**
Family Total	**130**	**244**	**297**	**307**	**435**	**499**	**1**	**260**	**358**	**476**	**208**	**88**	**243**	**3,546**	**1,249**
Civil															
Litigation	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	**6**	**1**
Non-litigation	0	0	1	1	0	9	0	0	1	2	0	7	1	**22**	**1**
Admin. Tribunal	6	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	**13**	**0**
Immigration	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0**
Review Board	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**4**	**0**
Adult Protection	0	0	3	3	5	13	0	5	3	23	0	1	0	**56**	**18**
Appeal	0	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	**7**	**0**
Other	6	7	3	0	3	8	0	1	2	12	0	18	3	**63**	**12**
Civil Total	**14**	**10**	**13**	**4**	**10**	**35**	**0**	**6**	**8**	**37**	**0**	**29**	**5**	**171**	**32**
Grand Total	**467**	**498**	**579**	**791**	**1,399**	**1,067**	**1,827**	**810**	**789**	**2,194**	**697**	**516**	**462**	**12,096**	**2,734**

Certificates Completed by Private Lawyers

From April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003

Office	Criminal Adult	Criminal Y. O.	Provincial	Family	Civil	Total	%
Amherst	29	17	0	50	0	**96**	3.5%
Annapolis Royal	6	0	0	27	1	**34**	1.2%
Antigonish	75	16	0	74	1	**166**	6.1%
Bridgewater	30	12	0	75	3	**120**	4.4%
Dartmouth	220	49	0	125	20	**414**	15.1%
Halifax North	6	108	0	252	3	**369**	13.5%
Halifax South	165	20	0	26	0	**211**	7.7%
Kentville	46	6	0	52	0	**104**	3.8%
New Glasgow	57	4	0	98	0	**159**	5.8%
Sydney	264	72	0	297	1	**634**	23.2%
Truro	92	10	0	49	0	**151**	5.5%
Windsor	47	14	0	36	2	**99**	3.6%
Yarmouth	65	21	0	84	1	**171**	6.3%
Administration	2	0	0	4	0	**6**	0.2%
Total	**1,104**	**349**	**0**	**1,249**	**32**	**2,734**	**100.0%**
Percent	**40.4%**	**12.8%**	**0.0%**	**45.7%**	**1.2%**	**100.0%**	

AFTER HOURS TELEPHONE DUTY COUNSEL APRIL 1, 2002 TO MARCH 31, 2003				
Month	Criminal Adult	Criminal Young Offender	Unknown	Total
April	303	36	12	351
May	258	47	24	329
June	292	51	26	369
July	245	35	24	304
August	261	54	16	331
September	284	50	24	358
October	263	63	11	337
November	204	41	6	251
December	225	29	2	256
January	165	23	3	191
February	182	25	2	209
March	218	33	3	254
TOTALS	2,900	487	153	3,540

RECIPROCALS

APRIL 1, 2002 TO MARCH 31, 2003

Province	2002/2003			2001/2002		
	Outgoing	Incoming	Total	Outgoing	Incoming	Total
Alberta	9	9	18	11	13	24
British Columbia	3	4	7	10	9	19
Manitoba	0	1	1	2	4	6
New Brunswick	14	9	23	14	5	19
Newfoundland	6	9	15	13	5	18
Northwest Territories	0	1	1	1	1	2
Nunavut	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ontario	37	25	62	50	27	77
Prince Edward Island	5	0	5	4	2	6
Quebec	0	7	7	4	4	8
Saskatchewan	1	0	1	0	4	4
Yukon	0	1	1	0	1	1
Outside Canada	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	**75**	**66**	**141**	**109**	**75**	**184**

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Financial Statements
March 31, 2003

Contents

	Page
Auditors' Report	1
Statement of Revenue and Expenses	2
Balance Sheet	3
Statement of Changes in Net Assets	4
Statement of Cash Flows	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6 – 11
Schedule of Expenses	12

NOVA SCOTIA
Office of the Auditor General

1888 Brunswick Street
Suite 302
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3J8

Bus: 902 424-5907
Fax: 902 424-4350

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister of Justice; and

To the Chair and Members of the
Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission

I have audited the balance sheet of the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission as at March 31, 2003, and the statements of revenue and expenses, changes in net assets, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Commission as at March 31, 2003 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

E.R. Salmon, FCA
Auditor General

Halifax, Nova Scotia
June 23, 2003

Nova Scotia Government Web Site
http://www.gov.ns.ca

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Statement of Revenue and Expenses

Year Ended March 31	2003	2002
Revenue		
Grants – Province of Nova Scotia	$ 12,655,871	$ 12,525,939
Interest	117,281	191,803
Other income	107,274	125,523
	12,880,426	12,843,265
Expenses (Page 12)		
Amortization	221,681	138,902
Capital lease interest	-	697
Directors' fees	8,400	21,378
Equipment and maintenance	90,237	80,707
Library	166,193	160,907
Membership, meetings and conferences	179,289	202,091
Office disbursements	257,947	253,757
Private solicitors' fees (Note 6)	2,133,985	2,096,444
Professional and other fees	144,648	187,822
Salaries and benefits	8,874,465	8,758,048
Supplies and services	948,491	964,455
Travel	152,833	128,103
	13,178,169	12,993,311
Deficiency of revenue over expenses before special cases and unusual items	(297,743)	(150,046)
Special cases (Note 7)		
Contribution from the Province of Nova Scotia	257,426	343,533
Contributions from clients	17,910	15,194
	275,336	358,727
Expenses, special cases	275,336	358,727
	-	-
Deficiency of revenue over expenses before unusual items	(297,743)	(150,046)
Unusual items (Note 15)	-	227,129
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses	$ (297,743)	$ 77,083

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

2

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Balance Sheet

March 31

	2003	2002
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 1,674,286	$ -
Investments	2,161,446	3,999,576
Receivables	80,088	337,509
Prepaids	29,685	22,620
	3,945,505	4,359,705
Trust Fund - long service awards (Note 3)	1,563,638	1,425,108
Capital assets (Note 4)	438,177	561,799
	$ 5,947,320	$ 6,346,612
Liabilities		
Current		
Bank indebtedness	$ -	$ 321,939
Payables and accruals (Notes 5 and 6)	1,442,248	1,768,650
Deferred contribution – special cases (Note 7)	784,931	524,698
	2,227,179	2,615,287
Long term		
Long service awards (Note 8)	1,563,638	1,425,108
Deferred contributions – capital assets (Note 9)	697,209	549,180
	4,488,026	4,589,575
Net Assets		
Unrestricted net assets	428,484	917,604
Reserve for capital asset expenditures (Note 10)	150,000	-
Net assets invested in capital assets (Page 4)	194,921	157,208
Reserve for future case completion (Page 4 & Note 10)	685,889	682,225
	1,459,294	1,757,037
	$ 5,947,320	$ 6,346,612

Commitment and contingencies (Note 11)

On behalf of the Board

Member

Member

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended March 31

	Unrestricted Net Assets	Reserve for Capital Asset Expenditures	Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets	Reserve for Future Case Completion	2003 Total	2002 Total
Balance, beginning of year	$ 917,604	$ -	$ 157,208	$ 682,225	**$ 1,757,037**	$ 1,679,954
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses	(297,743)	-	-	-	**(297,743)**	77,083
Purchase of capital assets	(87,023)	-	87,023	-	**-**	-
Amortization, net	49,310	-	(49,310)	-	**-**	-
Transfer to reserve for capital asset expenditures	(150,000)	150,000	-	-		-
Transfer to reserve for future case completion	(3,664)	-	-	3,664	**-**	-
Balance, end of year	$ 428,484	$ 150,000	$ 194,921	$ 685,889	**$ 1,459,294**	$ 1,757,037

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Statement of Cash Flows

Year Ended March 31

	2003	2002
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		
Operating		
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses	$ (297,743)	$ 77,083
Amortization	221,681	138,902
Amortization of deferred contributions – capital	(172,371)	(113,822)
	(248,433)	102,363
Change in non-cash operating working capital (Note 13)	(76,046)	446,020
	(324,479)	548,383
Financing		
Principal repayments of capital lease	-	(13,065)
Decrease in early retirement incentive program	-	(178,372)
Advances for special cases, net	260,233	56,466
Advances for capital asset purchases	320,400	-
	580,633	(134,971)
Investing		
Decrease (increase) in investments	1,838,130	(1,302,662)
Purchase of capital assets	(98,059)	(518,751)
	1,740,071	(1,821,413)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	1,996,225	(1,408,001)
Cash and cash equivalents,		
Beginning of year	(321,939)	1,086,062
End of year	$ 1,674,286	$ (321,939)

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

5

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Notes to the Financial Statements
March 31, 2003

1. Authority

The Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission was established in 1977 pursuant to the Legal Aid Act. The Act and Regulations stipulate that the Commission can provide legal services to persons whose income is derived primarily from municipal or provincial social assistance or to persons in an equivalent position.

Commission activities are funded by a grant from the Province of Nova Scotia. The Province in turn receives a contribution from the Government of Canada for legal aid provided by the Commission.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

Revenue
Operating grants are recorded on the accrual basis.

Contributions from the Province of Nova Scotia for the acquisition of capital assets are recorded as deferred contributions and are amortized to revenue in accordance with the amortization schedule for each capital asset acquired.

Capital assets
Capital assets are stated at cost and are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives:

Computer equipment	33.33% per year
Furniture and equipment	20% per year
Leasehold improvements	Over term of lease
Equipment under capital lease	33.33% per year

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and balances with banks.

Special cases
Periodically, the Commission provides legal services to clients upon special request from the Department of Justice where the clients would not otherwise be eligible under the Commission's guidelines. Contributions and expenses related to these special cases are presented separately on the statement of revenue and expenses.

Investments
Investments consist of banker acceptance notes and are valued at cost, which approximates market value. These banker acceptance notes bear interest in a range of 2.40% to 2.65% and mature between 30 and 42 days after year-end.

Financial Instruments
The Commission's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, investments, receivables and payables. It is management's opinion that the Commission is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

The Commission estimates that the fair value of its cash and cash equivalents, investments, receivables and payables approximate their carrying values due to the relatively short period to maturity of these financial instruments.

3. Trust Fund – long service awards

The Commission follows the provisions of the Civil Service Act with respect to the payment of long service awards to retiring employees. The Commission is responsible for the funding and eventual payment of these awards.

The Commission maintains a trust fund to provide for the eventual payment of awards and to administer long service award advances. The Commission provides contributions, from general operating funds, to defray future obligations for long service awards.

In prior years, employees with fifteen years of employment could apply for an advance on their long service award. Advances are repayable upon retirement or termination, together with interest at the provincial borrowing rate which existed at the time of the advance. To date, six employees have received advances. Advances plus accrued interest at March 31, 2003 totalled $148,947 (2002 - $147,237).

	2003	2002
Balance, beginning of year	$ 1,425,108	$ 1,163,900
Add: Contribution from operating funds	74,815	68,842
Outstanding year end contribution	26,007	149,742
Interest on long service award advances	7,190	7,450
Interest on investments	30,518	35,174
	138,530	261,208
Less: Long service awards paid to retiring employees	-	-
Balance, end of year	$ 1,563,638	$ 1,425,108
Consisting of:		
Cash	$ (2,166)	$ 79,335
Investments and accrued interest on investments	1,390,850	1,048,794
Receivable – long service award advances and accrued interest on advances	148,947	147,237
Contribution due from operating funds	26,007	149,742
	$ 1,563,638	$ 1,425,108

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Notes to the Financial Statements
March 31, 2003

4. Capital assets

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2003 Net Book Value	2002 Net Book Value
Computer equipment	$ 615,932	$ 354,152	$ 261,780	$ 412,661
Furniture and equipment	134,795	24,003	110,792	76,379
Leasehold improvements	140,387	74,782	65,605	72,759
	$ 891,114	$ 452,937	$ 438,177	$ 561,799

5. Accounts payable and accruals

	2003	2002
Supplies and services	$ 119,943	$ 247,825
Accrued private solicitors' fees (Note 6)	1,228,530	1,136,623
Employee salaries and benefits	93,775	384,202
	$ 1,442,248	$ 1,768,650

6. Measurement uncertainty

Measurement uncertainty is uncertainty in the determination of the amount at which an item is recognized in the financial statements. This exists when there is a variance between the recorded amount and another reasonable possible amount.

Measurement uncertainty in these financial statements is inherent in the recording of accrued private solicitors' fees. At the end of each fiscal year the Commission has a liability for work conducted by private solicitors that is not yet billed and paid. At March 31, 2003, a liability of $1,228,530 (2003 - $1,136,623) was recorded, of which $1,050,157 (2002 - $886,436) was estimated using a system that incorporates average costs and time frames for similar cases over the last two years. The estimate will vary from the eventual billings from private solicitors due to the specific requirements of each case.

7. Deferred contribution - special cases

Special case funding is received from the Province of Nova Scotia and is restricted solely for expenditures incurred in the process of defending clients. Amounts not used for current expenditures are deferred to be applied against future cases. Any funding not committed at the conclusion of the cases must be returned to the Province of Nova Scotia.

8. Long service awards

Employees of the Commission are entitled to long service awards upon retirement. The awards are based on the number of years of service of the employee, and are earned at the rate of one week's pay for every year of service, to a maximum of twenty-six weeks.

In 2003, the Commission engaged an outside consultant to estimate the liability relating to the awards. Based on the estimate of the present value of obligation respecting long service awards at March 31, 2003, the long service award trust funds of $1,563,636 (2002 - $1,425,108) are sufficient to fund the liability.

9. Deferred contributions – capital assets

In the 1999 fiscal year the Province of Nova Scotia contributed $353,000 to the Commission to offset anticipated costs of upgrading the Commission's computer systems. A further $400,000 was contributed in 2001 and $320,400 in the 2003 fiscal year. The changes in the deferred contributions balance for the period are as follows:

	2003	2002
Balance, beginning of year	$ 549,180	$ 662,802
Less: amounts amortized to revenue	(172,371)	(113,622)
Plus: contributions received	320,400	-
Balance, end of year	$ 697,209	$ 549,180

10. Reserves

Reserve for future case completion

The Commission has appropriated an amount from unrestricted net assets that approximates management's best estimate of the remaining cost to complete the cases that are in progress as at March 31, 2003.

Reserve for capital expenditures

The Commission has appropriated an amount from unrestricted net assets that approximates management's best estimate of the future capital expenditures that will be required to upgrade its management information systems.

11. Commitments and contingencies

a. The Commission has entered into lease agreements for ten of its offices. The remaining three offices do not have formal lease agreements. Lease agreements typically call for payment of a base rent plus a provision for the Commission's portion of operating costs and property taxes. Lease terms vary by office.

Minimum lease payments for the next five fiscal years, not including operating costs and taxes, are as follows:

2004	545,976
2005	545,976
2006	435,315
2007	247,098
2008	209,357

b. The Commission provides funding to Dalhousie Legal Aid Services. The Commission has agreed to provide a grant of $69,000 to Dalhousie Legal Aid Services for the year ending March 31, 2004.

c. The Commission has been named a defendant in an action. As of the audit report date, the outcome of this claim is not determinable, and accordingly, no provision has been made for it in the financial statements.

12. Client Trust Funds

On March 31, 2003, $2,354 (2002 - $12,902) was held in trust for clients. These trust funds are accounted for separately and are not reflected in the financial statements.

13. Supplemental cash flow information

	2003	2002
Change in non cash operating working capital:		
Receivables	$ 257,421	$ (41,845)
Prepaids	(7,065)	7,443
Payables and accruals	(326,402)	480,422
	$ (76,046)	$ 446,020
Cash and cash equivalents consist of:		
Cash on hand and balances with banks	$ 1,674,286	$ (321,939)
Interest paid	$ -	$ 697

14. Pensions

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Legal Aid Act, all permanent employees of the Commission are entitled to receive pension benefits under the Province of Nova Scotia Public Service Superannuation Act. The plan is funded by equal employee and employer contributions. The employer contributions are included in the Commission's operating expenses. The Commission is not responsible for any unfunded liability with respect to the superannuation fund.

15. Unusual items

	2003	2002
Recovery of HST	$	$ 35,850
Elimination of Early Retirement Incentive Plan liability	-	191,279
	$ -	$ 227,129

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission
Schedule of Expenses
Year Ended March 31, 2003

	Budget	2003 Actual	2002 Actual
Amortization	$ -	$ 221,681	$ 138,902
Capital lease interest	-	-	697
Directors' fees	45,000	8,400	21,378
Equipment and maintenance			
Leasehold improvements	26,400	10,678	5,168
Office furniture and equipment	41,000	17,278	21,254
Office machine leasing	48,000	34,808	34,057
Office machine maintenance	36,700	27,473	20,228
	152,100	90,237	80,707
Library	160,000	166,193	160,907
Membership, meetings and conferences			
Membership and dues	130,000	108,240	124,223
Meetings and conferences	60,000	71,049	77,868
	190,000	179,289	202,091
Office disbursements			
Civil and family	150,000	117,407	91,798
Criminal	150,000	129,717	155,595
Young Offender	22,000	10,823	6,364
	322,000	257,947	253,757
Private solicitors' fees			
Civil and family – conflicts	1,003,400	1,059,339	1,052,746
Criminal – choice of counsel	170,000	201,744	86,082
Criminal – conflicts	586,800	679,653	780,412
Young offender – choice of counsel	-	4,149	8,995
Young offender – conflicts	150,000	189,100	168,209
	1,910,200	2,133,985	2,096,444
Professional and other fees			
Professional fees	129,700	137,778	166,121
Consultant fees	-	6,870	21,701
	129,700	144,648	187,822
Salaries and benefits	8,872,700	8,874,465	8,758,048
Supplies and services			
General cleaning and office expense	69,500	56,319	65,915
Heat, light and water	27,000	20,992	22,569
Miscellaneous	1,000	1,511	2,594
Printing and stationery	90,000	90,663	97,239
Rent, insurance and taxes	628,600	580,326	584,184
Telephone and postage	215,000	198,680	191,954
	1,031,100	948,491	964,455
Travel	156,400	152,833	128,103
	$ 12,969,200	$ 13,178,169	$ 12,993,311

12

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Advice - Legal counsel provided to people who require only legal advice but no further legal service.

AM - Amherst Office

After Hours Telephone Duty Counsel - After hours legal advice provided by lawyers.

Applications Pending Decision as to Service - Applications for Legal Aid received in the fiscal year for which a decision has yet to be made.

Applications Received by Method of Service - Applications for Legal Aid received in the fiscal year and how those applications were dealt with.

AR - Annapolis Royal Office

AT - Antigonish Office

BW - Bridgewater Office

Cells Duty Counsel - Legal representation provided by a staff lawyer at the Halifax Provincial Court, Spring Garden Road. This representation is provided to only those individuals detained in cells. The Commission initiated the same service at Dartmouth Provincial Court site, Pleasant Street in February 2001 with a contract lawyer.

Certificate - Contract entered into between the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission and a private lawyer to provide legal representation to clients who qualify for Legal Aid services but cannot be represented by the local Nova Scotia Legal Aid Office due to conflicts of interest. Nova Scotia Legal Aid continues to give individuals charged with offences punishable by mandatory life imprisonment (murder) a choice of defence counsel and this results in Certificates being issued to private lawyers as well.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Dalhousie Legal Aid Service - An organization which receives a significant portion of its funding from the budget of the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission. The Dalhousie Legal Aid Service provides services to its clients through staff lawyers with the assistance of Dalhousie Law School students who are supervised by lawyers in the provision of any legal services.

DR - Dartmouth Office

Full Service - Full Service matters are all those matters which require a higher commitment of legal resources than can be serviced as a Summary Service.

Hfx North - Halifax Agricola Street Office

Hfx-South - Halifax Spring Garden Road Office

KE - Kentville Office

NG - New Glasgow Office

Matters Completed - Cases which concluded in the fiscal year.

Private Lawyers - Members of the private Bar representing clients by way of a Nova Scotia Legal Aid Certificate.

Reciprocal - Outgoing - An application for Legal Aid which is forwarded to another province where the Nova Scotia resident requires legal representation. All provinces and territories by agreement participate in this exchange of applications for Legal Aid.

Rejected Applications - Applicants for Nova Scotia Legal Aid who were not provided with service due to financial ineligibility, lack of merit, or the service requested was outside of the scope of service.

Staff Lawyers - Lawyers employed by the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Staff Duty Counsel - Lawyers employed by the Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission who provide legal representation, either by telephone or in person, to people detained in the Provincial Court Cells or at a police station. The staff lawyers also, on occasion, provide Duty Counsel services to family or civil clients as the situation may require.

Summary Service - Summary Service matters are those matters which require a lesser commitment of legal resources and are serviced through advice.

SY - Sydney Office

TR - Truro Office

WI - Windsor Office

YA - Yarmouth Office

YCJA - ***Youth Criminal Justice Act***